Pamela Chopra, singer & writer, passes away

Avijit.Ghosh | TNN

Pamela Chopra, whose voice was synonymous with the folk-flavoured wedding and festive songs of Yash Raj Films, and who creatively contributed to the making of superhits such as 'Kabhi Kabhie' (1976) and 'Dil To Pagal Hai' (1997), passed away in Mumbai on Thursday. She was 74.

"She was... intelligent, educated, warm and witty. Those who like me have worked closely with Yash (Chopra) ji know about her contribution in his scripts and music. She was an exceptional person," tweeted writer-lyricist Javed Akhtar. Pamela and Yash were married in 1970. Till then, Yash had directed five films, most notably 'Waqt' (1965), for his elder brother producer-director, B R Chopra's banner, BR Films. The same year he founded his own banner, Yash Raj Films, and forged his own path producing and directing a clutch of box-office winners such as 'Daag' (1973) and 'Kabhi Kabhie' (1976).

In the 2023 OTT series, 'The Romantics', which maps the filmmaker's life and legacy, several actors acknowledged Pamela's positive role in what happened before and behind the camera. "Pam-ji had a big contribution to Yashji's success, especially in the early years when he started off on his own," said actor Poonam Dhillon. Dhillon was introduced in 'Trishul' (1979) and 'Noorie' (1979), both Yash Raj productions. Pamela penned the story of 'Kabhi Kabhie' and was credited with the story idea of 'Dil To Pagal Hai,' which she also co-scripted. From all accounts, she had a strong sense of music. "Music is my passion. Yash knew that and invited me to attend the music sittings. And slowly I became part of that group," Pamela said in The Romantics. "Her cremation took place at 11 am in Mumbai," Yash Raj Films tweeted from their official handle on Thursday. Yash Chopra had passed away in 2012.

Full report on www.toi-.in